

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 306  
By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor Robert C. Byrd, Sr. on his meritorious service to the good people of Shelby County and Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who, through diligence and dedication, have contributed significantly to improving the quality of life in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, Robert C. Byrd, Sr. of Germantown is most assuredly one such stellar public servant who is deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd has served with acumen and integrity as Chairman of the Bank of Bartlett, West Tennessee Bancshares, Inc., and Bartlett Mortgage, Inc. since the bank was founded in 1980; and

WHEREAS, this accomplished gentleman of commerce also serves with distinction as Chairman of Bartlett Travel, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Robert C. Byrd, Sr. hails from a close-knit family who is renowned throughout this state for their ongoing commitment, both individually and collectively, to the highest precepts of public service; and

WHEREAS, three members of Mr. Byrd's family have rendered astute and proficient service as members of the Tennessee House of Representatives: his uncle, Ray Bodiford and his brothers, Harold Byrd, who served from 1976-1982 and Dan Byrd, who served from 1982-1996; and

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WHEREAS, his brother, Harold Byrd, won the Democratic nomination for the United States Congress from Tennessee's 7th Congressional District in 1994; and

WHEREAS, their father demonstrated his dedication to quality education for all children by means of his superlative service as a member of the McNairy Board of Education for nearly twenty remarkable years; and

WHEREAS, the Byrd brothers (James, John, Dan, Robert and Harold) were collectively honored by their deserved receipt of the Shelby County Education Association's "Friend of Education Award" in 1989; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his illustrious family's enviable record of public service and his stellar work with the family's businesses, Robert C. Byrd, Sr. evidences his stalwart commitment to the development of this state's most precious natural resource, our children, by means of his estimable service as a member of the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, representing Tennessee's 7th Congressional District, Mr. Byrd has served with the utmost professionalism and dedication as a member of the State Board of Education since 1987; and

WHEREAS, he was also a valuable member of the Board of Trustees of LeMoyne-Owen College from 1989-1994, and during his exemplary tenure on the Board he served adroitly as Chairman of the Audit Committee and Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who fully understands that citizenship entails many responsibilities as well as privileges, Mr. Byrd has also rendered meritorious service to his community and fellow citizens as a member of the Board of Trustees of St. George's Day School and Mid-South School of Banking and as a board member of Downs Syndrome Children, Friends of Memphis City Beautiful, and University of Memphis Highland 100, among numerous other worthy organizations; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments and accolades aside, he remains most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Debra, and their three children, Robert, Jr., Lauren and Justin; and

WHEREAS, Robert C. Byrd, Sr. truly exemplifies the great volunteer tradition of Tennessee through his outstanding endeavors in public service, and his ongoing commitment to living the examined life with liberality and courage; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Robert C. Byrd, Sr. upon his meritorious service to the citizens of Shelby County and Tennessee, salute his illustrious record of achievement and public service and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.